(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 11 August 2005 (11.08.2005)

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/072390 A3

(51) International Patent Classification: H04N 7/18 (2006.01) H04N 7/173 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2005/002627

(22) International Filing Date: 31 January 2005 (31.01.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language:

(30) Priority Data:

English

60/540,161 60/598,241

29 January 2004 (29.01.2004) US 3 August 2004 (03.08.2004) US

(71) Applicants and

- (72) Inventors: WOUNDY, Richard, M. [US/US]; 17 Foley Drive, North Reading, MA 01864 (US). ZUNDEL, Jean-Pol [US/US]; 841 Cloverly Road, Berwyn, PA 19312 (US). BLACK, Neville [US/US]; 3729 Worthington Road, Collegeville, PA 19426 (US). HARTLEY, Harry [US/US]; 1901 60th PL, Suite L4136, Brandenton, FL 34203 (US).
- (74) Agents: CURCURI, Jeremy, J. et al.; Brooks Kushman, 1000 Town Center, Twenty-Second Floor, Southfield, MI 48075 (US).

- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

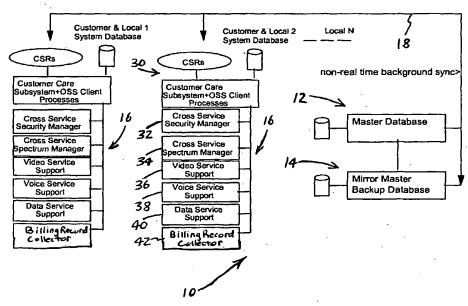
of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

Published:

with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FAILSOFT HEADEND OPERATION



(57) Abstract: A complex, multiple location consumer communication and content delivery system includes a plurality of headend facilities and a central facility including a database. A distributed information technology (IT) architecture involves back office IT infrastructure located at the central facility, and headend IT infrastructure located at each headend facility. Headend IT infrastructure may be provided with a policy setting limits for transactions that normally require real-time access to the central database. The headend is programmed to handle real-time transactions, without real-time access to the central database, in accordance with the set policy limits.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

8 March 2007

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.